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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/247,795      | 02/08/1999  | PASCAL OUDET         | B-3604-61692        | 8059             |

22879 7590 11/23/2001

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FORT COLLINS, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER

CHUNG TRANS, XUONG MY

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2181

DATE MAILED: 11/23/2001

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Art Unit: 2181

1. This is responsive to the communication filed on 9/4/01.

Claim 1 has been amended and new claims 16-17 have been added. Therefore, claims 1-8 and 10-17 are pending in this application.

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371© of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

3. Claims 1-8 and 10-<sup>17</sup>~~16~~ are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Blackledge, Jr., et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,835,738).

The rejection of claims 1-8 and 10-15 as stated in the Office action dated May 24, 2001 is incorporated by reference. It is noted that new claims 16-17 recited similar subject matter as to claims 1-8 and 10-15; therefore, the rejection of claims 1-8 and 10-15 is applied.

4. Applicant's arguments filed on September 4, 2001 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that the functionality in the Blackledge system is a unidirectional whereas the functionality as claimed works bi-directionally. The Examiner is disagreed. The Examiner respectfully submitted that the functionality in the Blackledge system must works bi-directionally (col. 5, lines 14-26 and col. 6, lines 1- 2).

Art Unit: 2181

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

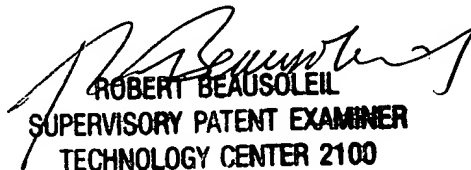
6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Xuong M. Chung-Trans whose telephone number is (703) 305-9772. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday-Friday from 7:30AM to 1:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Beausoleil, can be reached on (703) 305-9713. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 746-7239.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.



X. M. Chung-Trans



ROBERT BEAUSOLEIL  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100



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